

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 MCT-01
IO-13 /082 W
-----078830 060216Z /73

R 052041Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8328
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEI HTSL
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 2840

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OAS, PBOR, ES,FV

SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR/HONDURAS MILITARY
OBSERVERS

REF:
STATE 139232

1. EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR APPRECIATES GOOD WORK OF
EL SALVADOR
HONDURAS MILITARY OBSERVERS AND COMMENDS
PERSONNEL WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THIS IMPORTANT MISSION.

2. OUR OTHER SOURCES, TOO, INDICATE THAT MILITARY OF
THE TWO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN DEALING MORE

EASILY WITH EACH OTHER AND HAVE BEEN RESOLVING BORDER
PROBLEMS WITH A MINIMUM OF DIFFICULTIES. A PART OF
THE CREDIT FOR THIS GOES TO THE OAS MILITARY OBSERVERS.

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3. WE ARE PUZZLED AT SUGGESTION THAT APPOINTMENT OF
NEW FOREIGN MINISTER MAY HAVE TENDED TO DISSIPATE SOME
OF THIS GOODWILL. NEW FONMIN IF ANYTHING IMPRESSES
US AS LESS HARDLINE THAN HIS PREDECESSOR ON BORDER
AND RELATED MATTERS.

4. EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR SHARES COLONST AGRUDELO'S

CONCERN ABOUT DETERIORATING PROBLEM OF SUBVERSION IN EL SALVADOR. MOST OF RURAL VIOLENCE OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN BETWEEN PRO-GOVERNMENT AND ANTI-GOVERNMENT PEASANT GRUPS AND HAS NOT BEEN OF A TYPE WHICH WOULD READILY AFFECT OR ENDANGER OAS OBSERVERS. WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE KNOWING MORE ABOUT PRESENCE OF "UNIFORMED GUERRILLAS IN RURAL AREAS."

5. AS TO DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT OF OBSERVERS TO BORDER AREAS, WE DOUBT THAT JULY 15 PULL-OUT WOULD BE

FEASIBLE OR VERY COMPATIBLE WITH MEDIATION EFFORT. IF TECHNICAL VIEW OF COLONEL AGUDELO IS THAT 90-DAY ASSIGNMENT IS TOO SHORT AND 180-DAY ASSIGNMENT WOULD BE BETTER, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONCUR IN THIS, PROVIDING USCINCSO SEES NO OBJECTION.

6. AS FINAL NOTE, WE WOULD LIKE TO CAUTION AGAINST DEVELOPING TENDENCY OF OBSERVER PERSONNEL TO SEEK IDENTIFICATION WITH HOST-COUNTRY EMBASSIES, FORMAL DIPLOMATIC ACCREDITATION, AND SIMILAR PERQUISITES. THESE SEEM TO US TO WORK AGAINST IMPARTIAL, NEUTRAL, TECHNICAL CHARACTER WHICH WE ALL SHOULD SEEK AND EMPHASIZE FOR OAS OBSERVER MISSION PERSONNEL.

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Message Attributes

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